Meeting Notes

SPU Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)



November 18, 2009 Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue Room 4096 5 p.m.-7 p.m.

Chair: Mike McComber Vice Chair: David Ruggiero Secretary: Nicole Riss

In attendance: Mike McComber, Chair; Signe Gilson; Eric Johnson; Theo Mbabaliye; Carl Pierce;

Nicole Riss; David Ruggiero; Rita Smith **Absent:** Todd Johnson; George Kukahiko

Staff: Vicky Beaumont, Linda Rogers, Pat Kaufman, Dick Lilly

Guests: Bill Lasby, Public Health

5:05 pm Call to Order

Administration:

Chair Report:

- o October, 2009 minutes approved
- Attendance: George Kukahiko notified Staff Supporter he will be unable to attend due to illness
- Recruitment: Have received four applications for SWAC 2010-2011 membership to date.
 Jenna Franklin has been heavily recruiting in the historically under represented communities
- o Mercury lighting letter was drafted, finalized and set out
- WA Dept of Ecology Vicky Beaumont advised SWAC the new draft guidelines for solid waste plans is on the web; comments are due to Ecology by December 31, 2009. The guidelines have SWACs highly involved in plans and their updates..

Monthly Topics:

5. Food+ Compostables - Briefing

- Dick Lilly briefly reviewed current efforts on converting quick-food restaurants to compostable serve-ware and diverting more food waste to composting in these settings.
- o Pat Kaufman reviewed advertising efforts with flyers and decals being used.
 - Efforts are for post consumables; until now, emphasis has been on back-of-house; efforts are now being focused on front-of-house
 - Shared work plan is a continually evolving document
 - Strategies include resources and tools for the restaurants
 - Event at Seattle Center started with invitations to 4500 business owners; approximately
 150 attended; was considered a successful event
 - On-site display focused on packaging vendors
 - Focusing on compliance, steps toward desired outcome, by progressively changing a few things at a time
 - SWAC Recommendation focus on durables, encourage as an option
 - Contact increasing by end of January 2010
 - o Paradigm shift from throw away to compostable and/or to recyclable materials
 - Concerns: regional issues, zoning, and facilities' ability to handle increased composting volumes

6. Advisory Committee Operations - Briefing

Vicky Beaumont advised a letter will soon becoming from the acting SPU director about all the advisory committees' operations in 2010. Will discuss more in January once the letter has been received.

7. 2010 SWAC Work Plan - Review & Revise

- Vicky Beaumont presented a draft SWAC work plan with potential 2010 issues. These were derived from previous SWAC brainstorming, Line of Business recommendations, and items rolled over from 2009
 - Discussion added DOE planning guidelines review; reports from "the trenches" such as Allied, transfer stations, customer service, etc.
 - How to have a good SWAC
 - Feedback to Presenters
 - Being pro-active closing loops
 - Consider for name change to more reflect purpose
- o Comments or change recommendations requested to be sent directly to Vicky Beaumont

8. SWAC Officer Elections

- o Chair: Signe Gilson
- o Vice-Chair David Ruggerio
- Secretary delay until January with members

9. Application to Continue on the SWAC - Briefing

- Linda Rogers reminded all members whose terms are ending and wish to continue should submit their application by December 1st.
- Interviews of potential new SWAC members are being scheduled for the first week of December.

10. Appreciation - Briefing

 Outgoing members (Nicole Riss and Mike McComber, Theo Mbabaliye) were recognized for their contributions to SWAC and the citizens of Seattle, and each were presented with a certificate of appreciation.

Wrap Up:

- Ecology draft update to Solid Waste Management Plans Revisions
 - Comments regarding SWAC involvement can be sent either individually or as a voice from Seattle SWAC
 - Rita recommended there be something from the SWAC be sent she'll gather comments and prepare for submittal. She needs these by December 1st. Will send out comments for everyone to review before being sent in before the December 31st deadline

Recommendations:

Update on compostables from Dick Lily

Action Items:

 Reminder to SWAC members to get comments on DOE draft planning guidelines update to Rita by December 1st

Preliminary Agenda for Next Meeting - January 20, 2010

- Approve meeting minutes for November, 2009
- Per draft work plan

7:00 PM Meeting adjourned.

•